

# STAPELEY & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Carol Jones

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**NOTE:** Prior to start of the meeting there will be a presentation from David Wilson Homes in respect of the site at Stapeley Water Gardens.

**The presentation will be from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm.**

## NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors are summoned to a meeting to be held on:

**DATE: THURSDAY, 1 MARCH 2012**  
**TIME: 8.00 PM (following the presentation)**  
**VENUE: PEAR TREE SCHOOL, PEAR TREE FIELD  
STAPELEY**

Enquiries to:

Clerk: Carol Jones

Tel: 01270 812065

Signed



To: Members of the Parish Council  
Councillors Mike Docker, Sandy Gwinn-Freemantle (Chairman), Jo Hillman, Maxine Galt, Keith Nord, Raj Samra (Vice-Chairman) and James Wood

Copies: Borough Councillors Peter Groves and Andrew Martin (Nantwich South and Stapeley)  
Press: Crewe Chronicle, Nantwich Chronicle, Crewe Blog, Nantwich Blog, Red Shift Radio, BBC Radio Stoke, Signal Radio, Guardian Series.

**Note:** Members of the public are asked to print their own copy of the agenda from the website. Members of the public without access to the Internet are asked to contact the Clerk by no later than noon on the day of the meeting to ensure that sufficient spare copies of the agenda are available.

(See overleaf for other notes for members of the public.)

## NOTES:

### 1) Members of the Public

The Parish Council welcomes and encourages members of the public to attend its meetings. You are requested to enter and leave quietly and to remain quiet during the meeting. **If you have Internet access, you are asked to print your own copy of the agenda from the Parish Council's website**, if you plan to attend the meeting. The Clerk will have a small number of spares available at the meeting.

#### Public Question Time

The Parish Council provides an opportunity at its meetings for members of the public to ask questions. A period of 10 minutes is allowed, but, dependent on the number of speakers, the Chairman will exercise her discretion as to whether to extend this period.

Questions should relate to the work of the Parish Council and can be written or oral. As a courtesy, it would be appreciated if questions could be submitted in writing to the Clerk a minimum of 24 hours before the date of the meeting. In the case of written questions, the Clerk will advise the Chairman if the question is appropriate, potentially defamatory, or if abusive language has been used and in these circumstances, a decision may be taken to withhold the question from the meeting.

Where questions are asked orally at the meeting, there shall be no discussion on any matter raised by the question. A response shall be given at the meeting, if possible; otherwise, a written response will be provided to the questioner.

Meeting Venue: When the meeting is held at Broad Lane Methodist Chapel, car parking is available at the rear of the Chapel. Alternatively, you can park in front of the Chapel on Audlem Road.

On occasions, members of the press and public will be excluded from the meetings when the business to be transacted is of a confidential nature; for example, dealing with individual people, contracts and financial affairs of other parties.

### 2) Members of the Parish Council

#### A Notice of items

The Parish Council cannot lawfully decide any matter which has not been specifically included on the agenda, and there is case law to this effect (*Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119*).

**B Planning Grounds** The grounds on which comments can be made on planning applications are as follows –

- |   |  |    |   |
|---|--|----|---|
| 1 | Development Plan in all its aspects                                  | 8  | Appropriateness of use taking account of local area |
| 2 | Government legislation and guidance (PPG)                            | 9  | Effect on highway safety and parking                |
| 3 | Siting   | 10 | Landscape   |
| 4 | Design   | 11 | Listed buildings                                    |
| 5 | External appearance  | 12 | Conservation areas                                  |
| 6 | Compatibility with street-scene                                      | 13 | Land contamination                                  |
| 7 | Development affect on neighbouring properties, amenities and privacy | 14 | Flooding  |

#### Non-Relevant Matters

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Matters controlled by other legislation | 6 | Business competition                    |
| 2 | Effects on private rights               | 7 | Personal circumstances – health/finance |
| 3 | Provisions in covenants/deeds           | 8 | Ownership                               |
| 4 | Effect on property values               | 9 | Moral issues                            |
| 5 | Private opinions                        |   |   |

Note: If the Parish Council agrees, in principle, with an application, but not in all aspects, suggestions for “development conditions” can be made, in line with relevant factors.

# AGENDA

This agenda is divided into two parts.

**PART 1** is taken in the presence of the press and public. **PART 2** is taken in the absence of the press and public for the reasons given.

## PART 1

### 8.00 – 8.30 PM

#### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence should be notified to the Clerk by noon on the day of the meeting, if possible. Apologies must be received and accepted before the meeting. If received after the meeting they cannot be recorded.

#### **2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and, if necessary, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

Declarations are a personal matter for each Member to decide. Whilst the Clerk will advise on the Code of Conduct and its interpretation, the decision to declare, or not, is the responsibility of the Parish Councillor, based on the particular circumstances.

#### **3 MINUTES**

**3.1** To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 February 2012. ■ ■ ■

#### **3.2 Matters Arising**

##### (a) Publicity for Parish Council Meetings

To note that the following have been added to the distribution list for Parish Council agendas: Crewe Chronicle, Nantwich Chronicle, Crewe Blog, Nantwich Blog, Red Shift Radio, BBC Radio Stoke, Signal Radio, Guardian Series.

Electronic publicity for Parish Council meetings is now as follows:

- The website
- Local press
- Borough Councillors

In addition, a calendar of meetings is displayed in each of the two notice-boards, and the agendas are displayed three clear days before the meeting

The Parish Newsletter contains a 12-month calendar of meetings.

##### (b) Website

Councillor Hillman to report briefly on the review of the website. A report will be submitted to a later meeting.

**4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (10 MINUTES)**

In accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Order No.1, members of the public are able to submit a question, either in writing prior to the meeting, or orally at the meeting. The question should relate to the work of the Parish Council on any matter relevant to its business.

**There should be no discussion on any matter raised by such questions.** If possible, a response shall be given at the meeting; otherwise a written response will be provided to the questioner.

The Chairman has discretion to extend the speaking time dependent on the number of speakers.

**5 POLICE MATTERS**

PCSO N Jarvis will be in attendance to report on Police matters in the parish.

**6 CHESHIRE EAST BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Borough Councillors Groves and Martin to report on any Cheshire East matters which may be of interest to the Parish Council.

**8.30 PM – 9.00 PM**

**7 CASUAL VACANCY**

To report that Mr Rob Morton has resigned as parish councillor, with effect from 8 February. The vacancy is a casual vacancy and the Elections Office at Cheshire East Borough Council has been notified.

A notice advertising the vacancy has been published. If no election is called, the Parish Council will be able to co-opt to the vacancy. There are currently three vacancies.

**8 LAND AT TALBOT WAY**

In view of the resignation of Councillor Rob Morton, the Parish Council is asked to nominate a Member who can carry out a monthly inspection of the land and maintain a written record of the inspection, reporting to the Parish Council monthly. A Member on the Cronkinson Estate would be the most appropriate.

**9 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME [REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS]**

This item has been requested by Councillor J Hillman. The Parish Council is invited to consider the Clerk's report which is attached. . . .

A further copy of the Standing Orders (excluding the Financial Regulations) is attached for ease of reference. . . .

**10 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT [Parish Councillors' Surgeries and Public Debates]**

Separate from any revision to the Standing Orders, the Parish Council may wish to consider the following as additional means of engaging with local residents.

Parish Councillors' Surgeries

These were introduced a few years ago and were held on Saturday mornings at the Cronkinson Farm Pub. The first such event was relatively successful, but, despite extensive publicity, the scheme was abandoned after only two more surgeries owing to lack of interest from local residents.

If these were reinstated, they could be held bi-monthly or quarterly, dates could be agreed with the Cronkinson Farm Pub (or they could be held in the community hall in due course). Two

Members could be available on each occasion, possibly by rota. The dates would be publicised through the website, the notice-boards, the pub and the Parish Newsletter.

#### Public Meetings

The Parish Council might also wish to consider holding quarterly public debates, to be held at Pear Tree School. It is a larger venue than Broad Lane Methodist Chapel. There could be a specific topic for each debate, or it could be operated as an open forum. The timing of the debates could be linked to the publication of the newsletter and either be held in advance of publication, to inform the contents of the newsletter, or following distribution, to gain feedback. Representatives of the Parish Plan Implementation Group (Stapeley Parish Action Group) could be invited to attend and update residents on their latest achievements.

### **9.00 PM – 9.20 PM**

#### **10 DIAMOND JUBILEE 2012**

At the previous meeting, a Working Group comprising Councillors S Gwinn-Freemantle, M Galt, J Hillman and J Wood was established to give detailed consideration to the type of event which the Parish Council will host to mark the Diamond Jubilee.

The Working Group's recommendations will be submitted for consideration.

#### **11 CAROL SERVICE – DECEMBER 2012**

The Clerk has been in contact with Nantwich & District Band about the proposed Carol Service in December. At present, the band has no December commitments.

The Parish Council is invited to agree a date for the Carol Service and to consider if Nantwich & District Band should be asked to play again on this occasion.

### **9.20 PM – 9.50 PM**

#### **12 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### **12.1 Authorisation of Payments**

The Parish Council is asked to authorise the following payments:

£300 Jof's Mowing – grounds maintenance work carried out on land at Talbot Way and monthly maintenance on Broad Lane (September – December 2011)

£61 Johnsons the Printers, Nantwich – printing of 100 compliments slips for the Clerk

£800~ Purchase of commemorative coins to be given to each school pupil attending both Stapeley Broad Lane School and Pear Tree School.

- The Parish Council is invited to consider ordering additional paint for the dog-stencilling scheme which is to be operated every 6-weeks.

#### **13 PLANNING**

**13.1** 12/0299N – 8 Hodgkin Close, Stapeley  
Demolition of rear single-storey to construct new single-storey extension

The Parish Council is invited to comment on this application.

### **13.2 Housing Developments in Nantwich**

The Parish Council is invited to comment on the various consultation/exhibition events held in February by housing developers/agents.

Members will also wish to take into account the presentation by David Wilson Homes prior to the start of this meeting. The Clerk's briefing report is attached. ■ ■ ■

Muller Homes and Jones Homes have indicated that they wish to make a presentation to the Parish Council in respect of the Stapeley Water Gardens site. The date of 5 April has been offered to them and a response is awaited.

## **9.50 PM – 10.00 PM**

### **14 NEWSLETTER**

The Parish Council is asked to consider the second draft of the newsletter which will be submitted to the printers for drafting in the next two weeks, subject to any amendments which Members may wish to make. The deadline for receipt of articles was 22 February. Articles which were not received and have therefore been removed from the newsletter are as follows: ■ ■ ■

- SPAG contribution (including any news on the playground)
- School events
- Daffodil planting (where and why)
- Speed Watch update
- "Did you know?"

There is also no reference to the planning consultations currently being undertaken, but a brief item could be included following this evening's presentation by David Wilson Homes.

### **15 COMMUNITY HALL UPDATE**

#### **15.1 Hiring Agreement**

A small working group of Members met on 25 January and discussed in detail a proposed hiring agreement for the community hall. Former Councillor R Morton was preparing the final document. This is not yet available, but as it is crucial to the signing of the lease, Members may wish to review arrangements.

#### **15.2 Lease Between CEC and the Parish Council**

This matter will be dealt with in Part 2 of the meeting.

### **16 SPEED WATCH SCHEME**

To report on recent speed watch activities and an update on delivery of the up-graded equipment. Councillor Docker will not be present, but Councillor Nord may be able to report.

### **17 UPDATE ON PARISH PLAN IMPLEMENTATION GROUP [STAPELEY PARISH ACTION GROUP – SPAG]**

To receive a report of recent Stapeley Parish Action Group activities.

### **18 CONSULTATION – Cheshire Association of Local Councils**

The Parish Council is invited to comment on the revised proposals for Area Working, as detailed in the correspondence from the Cheshire Association of Local Councils issued to Members by e-mail on 2 February 2012.

## **10.00 PM – 10.15 PM**

### **19 CORRESPONDENCE**

The following items of correspondence have been received and issued to Members under separate cover.

#### For Decision

- The Cheshire East Partnerships Team is seeking articles for its next newsletter.

#### For Information

- List of direct-dial numbers for Planning Officers (CEC).
- Members will be aware that the High Court recently ruled against Bideford Town Council which included “Prayers” as part of its formal agenda. Cheshire East Council’s Borough Solicitor has sent a letter to all town and parish councils in Cheshire East outlining future arrangements for prayers at meetings of the Borough Council.
- CVS Cheshire East – February 2012 Bulletin
- CEC Letter notifying town and parish councils that they will each receive a grant for the financial year 2012-2013 to offset what it refers to as “double-taxation” of the parished areas.
- Diamond Jubilee 2012 – Firework Display – offer by commercial undertaking in Crewe.
- CEC has been contacted by Reaseheath College, Nantwich which is promoting a part of its landholding South of the Equine Unit, on the A51, as a possible site for a strategic urban extension. Reaseheath College is very keen to ensure that it has -

*“consulted widely and meaningfully with local leaders and communities regarding the proposed developments at Kingsley Fields. Garnering the views of local people is important to us, as we wish to make sure we take these on board and that, where possible, these influence our proposal so that we optimise the benefit to local communities and the College. The event will be advertised in the Nantwich Chronicle for three weeks prior to the date.”*

### **20 SHARED ITEMS**

Parish Councillors are invited to share information or request the inclusion of items on the agenda for the next meeting. Please note: Decisions cannot be made under this item.

### **21 BUSINESS PLANNING**

The Parish Council is asked to note the following matters to be considered over the next two months.

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| 5 April                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Initial consideration of calendar for the municipal year 2012-2013</li><li>• Year-end accounts which will be formally approved at the Annual Meeting in May</li><li>• Diamond Jubilee – firming up of arrangements</li><li>• Finalisation of newsletter ready for distribution late April</li><li>• Insurance Review</li><li>• Consideration of any matters which need to be brought to the attention of the public at the Annual Parish Meeting which precedes the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on the same evening</li></ul> |
| 3 May<br>Annual Meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Formal approval of the accounts for 2011-2012</li><li>• Finalising arrangements for the Diamond Jubilee</li><li>• Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year</li><li>• Review of casual vacancy situation</li><li>• Approval of Calendar of Meetings for 2012-2013</li></ul>  |

**10.15 PM – 10.25 PM**

**22 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (10 MINUTES)**

The Parish Council is invited to consider any questions from members of the public in accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Order No. 1.

**23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

5 April 2012

**24 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

In accordance with Paragraph 1 (2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Parish Council is invited to **RESOLVE** that the press and public be excluding from the meeting during consideration of the following items owing to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and the public interest would not be served in disclosing that information.

**PART 2**

**10.25 PM – 10.45 PM**

**25 DISTRIBUTION LIST FOR NEWSLETTER**

The attached is the street list and range of house numbers used for distributing the Parish Newsletter. Members are asked to review the list to ensure that it comprises the totality of streets in the parish. . . .

Reason for exclusion:

The information is likely to reveal the identity of individuals.

**26 LEASE FOR THE COMMUNITY HALL**

It is expected that the engrossed lease will be available for signature at the meeting. In the meantime, Members are asked to read and review the documents which were forwarded to them week ending 10 February.

**Members are asked to bring their own copy of the documents to the meeting.**

Reason for exclusion:

Legal professional privilege.